



# ADAMSTOWN BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

## 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER 2021

Sam Toffy – Secretary  
Lisa Crouse – Treasurer/Bookkeeper  
Mike Palm – Public Works Superintendent  
John Schmidt – Mayor

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Office Hours M-Th 9:00AM – 1:00PM or by appointment

### Council Members:

Randy Good, Pres. Dave Matz, V. Pres.  
Alex McManimen Mark Bansner  
deLyn Alumbaugh Randell Weaver  
Jerry Thomason

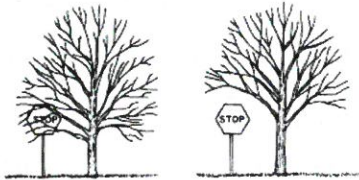
### Upcoming Council Meetings:

Nov 2, Dec 7 & Jan 4. All meetings in 2021/2022 will be held at the Wastewater Treatment Plant located at 235 E. Swartzville Road, Denver at 7:00PM unless otherwise noted.

**Rental Property Owners** – Please see that your tenants receive a copy of the quarterly newsletter. Extras are available at the borough office or in the information rack in the foyer. Newsletters can also be viewed on the borough website.

### Tree Lighting Ceremony in the Grove

The annual tree-lighting ceremony will be held on Sunday, November 28 and will begin at 5:30PM with the actual tree-lighting at 6:00PM. As was done in past years, members from the Boy Scouts Pack 61 will be assisting.



### Low Hanging Tree Branches

In order to provide a clear pathway for the plows this winter, all property owners are asked to trim back any low hanging tree branches along the roadway so there is a minimum 15' clearance from the ground to the lowest branches.

### Snowfall

During a plowable snowfall of approximately 2" or more, all vehicles must be moved from the snow emergency routes. Violators will be fined. Sidewalks must be shoveled within 24 hours after the snowfall ends. Also, please clear storm drains of leaves and debris to prevent flooding when the snow melts.



### Trick or Treat Night

Trick-or-Treat night will be held on Friday, October 29 from 6PM to 8PM. A few safety tips to follow:

- Wear bright, easy to see colors.
- Keep your house well lit, both inside and out.
- Walk on the sidewalks and use crosswalks. Do not cross between parked cars.
- Remind your children not to enter strange houses or cars.
- Report any suspicious or criminal activity to your police department immediately.
- Please encourage your children not to eat treats until they are at home and treats have been checked carefully and deemed safe to consume.

### Protect our Watershed

What is MS4 and how does it affect us? MS4 stands for Storm Water Discharge from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. Storm water originates from rain or melting snow/ice that runs off surfaces such as rooftops, streets, construction sites, lawns, and fields. Storm water runoff can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it makes its way to storm drains and natural waterways. What can you do to help?

- Plant native trees & plants
- Clean up after your pet
- Use fertilizers properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff
- Store gasoline, oil or other chemical materials indoors
- Monitor storm water inlets near your property
- NEVER dump anything down the storm drain, in a stream or other body of water



## Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

If you are having trouble making ends meet and are unable to pay rent, utilities and/or other housing-related costs, there is a local organization who may be able to assist you. If you are a household that experienced a Covid-19 pandemic-related job or income loss or related expense; if you demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and if you have a household income that is 80% or less than the Area Median Income, you may qualify for assistance. **Real Life Community Services** located at 240 Main Street, Suite B, Denver is one of our local Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) site. They are open Monday through Thursday from 9AM to 4PM and Friday from 9AM to 1PM. If you need financial help during a difficult time, please reach out to them at 717-336-7797 or email [chris@reallcs.org](mailto:chris@reallcs.org) to see if you qualify. **Ephrata Social Services** located at 227 N. State Street, Ephrata is another ERAP site. Ephrata Social Services has been serving the Ephrata and Cocalico area school district communities for 50 years, most recently branching out to the Lititz, Fivepointville and Terre Hill areas as well. They work together with both the unemployed and with corporations to find jobs for those who are currently unemployable by providing the training and skills they need to become good, sustainable employees. They also provide a rental assistance program which is social services working with property owners and municipalities to help those who need financial assistance. They are open Monday through Friday 9AM to 4PM and are available by appointment only. Please call 717-733-0345 to schedule an appointment. For more information on the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, please log onto <http://lancasterhelp.rent/>.



## Complaints

The Borough investigates probable ordinance/property maintenance violations based on written complaints only. If you feel someone is in violation of a borough ordinance or property maintenance code, a complaint form must be completed and submitted to the Borough office prior to any investigation. All complaint forms must be signed and dated. Any anonymous complaint form submitted will not be addressed. Forms can be found in the lobby of the Borough building or online at the following link:

<http://adamstownborough.org/DocumentCenter/View/154>

## Tips to Find a Water Leak in Your Home

The Borough receives several calls per quarter from property owners who feel their water bill is higher than normal. If you have noticed an increase in your water usage but don't see any visible signs of a leak, below are a few steps to follow to help determine if there is a leak on your property. If, after following these guidelines, you still think you have a leak in your home, it is best to hire a professional plumber to come and inspect the property for you.

- Leaky faucets are a major waste of water. One slow dripping faucet can waste up to 20 gallons of water a day. Over the period of a year this can add up to 6,000 gallons of water! Check all faucets in your home for any type of leak.
- If you own a dish washer it is suggested that you only run it when you have a full load ready to be cleaned. A typical dishwasher will use 15 gallons of water each load. Running partially filled loads is a waste of water. Check around the bottom of your dishwasher for leaks. Leave paper towels around the outside of the machine while it is in use. When the dishwasher stops running check the paper towels for signs of water. If you find water leaking you should have your dishwasher serviced immediately.
- Leaking toilets are often the culprits. If your toilet runs often, have the mechanisms in the tank completely replaced. Some toilets have slow leaks that are not noticeable. Slow water leaks in toilets can waste up to 100 gallons of water per day. Drop some dark food coloring in the tank of your toilet but don't flush. Watch the bowl of your toilet for 20 to 30 minutes to see if any of the food coloring appears. Check again in 15 minutes. If coloring appears, this means you have a slow leak. Be sure to flush your toilet after the test to avoid any staining in your bowl.
- If you have a hose connected to an exterior faucet you should check that for leaks. The best way to avoid this is to turn off the water supply at the faucet rather than relying on the hose spray attachment to stop the flow of water. A small leak can add gallons to your daily water usage.
- You can also use your water meter to check for any hidden leaks. Turn off all faucets and make sure you are not running any appliances that use water. Check the reading on your meter and do so again in a few hours. If your meter has moved, you have a hidden water leak somewhere in your home. A good time to try this test is at night. Read your meter before going to bed, then again in the morning. Assuming that no water has been used overnight, if the meter has moved at all you have a leak somewhere.